

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1–16. (Canceled)

17. (Withdrawn, Previously Presented) Implant plate according to claim 29, wherein a thickness of material of the implant plate including the head-end portion and the shaft-end portion is substantially uniform, wherein the head-end portion of the implant plate is widened to be of spoon-shape, and the shaft-end portion is designed to be comparatively narrower, and wherein all receiving members for the flexible fastening member are spaced along an outer edge or contour of the head-end portion.

18. (Withdrawn, Previously Presented) Implant plate according to claim 29, wherein the receiving members are made from strip material by at least one of laser-treatment, punching, cutting, deep drawing, bending and edge-rolling, and wherein the apertures are made by at least one of drilling, punching, laser-treatment, deep drawing, or bending and edge-rolling.

19. (Withdrawn, Previously Presented) Implant plate according to claim 29, wherein the receiving members consist of externally prefabricated ridges with drill holes, tubular receiving members, or round hooks, with or without a base, and wherein the receiving members are welded, pressure-welded, soldered, screwed, or riveted onto predetermined locating positions close to an edge of the strip material.

20. (Canceled).

21. (Withdrawn, Previously Presented) Implant plate according to claim 29, wherein the head-end portion of the implant plate has a blade disposed along an extension of a longitudinal axis, the blade having a sharp edge at one end.

22. (Withdrawn) Implant plate according to claim 21, wherein the blade has at least one drill hole having at least one screw thread into which upper-arm head-screws extending from the head-end portion of the implant plate may be screwed.

Claims 23–28. (Canceled)

29. (Currently Amended) An implant plate for stabilizing a fracture, comprising:

a plate member having an edge defining a head-end portion shaped to bear against a surface of a bone and a shaft-end portion shaped to bear against a surface of a bone, the head-end portion edge including opposite side edge sections, the shaft-end portion being narrower along a lateral direction than the head-end portion, and the plate member edge delineating a bone facing surface to bear against the bone and an opposing side surface facing away from the bone;

a plurality of holes for bone screws on each of the head-end portion and the shaft-end portion for fixing the plate member to the bone surfaces; and

[at least one] discrete receiving members protruding from said opposing side surface, located at the head-end portion and proximate to at least each side edge section [the edge], each member defining a substantially circular and circumferentially enclosed aperture through which flexible members may be passed through and tightened after the plate member has been secured to the bone surfaces, an edge circumference of each aperture having a distal curved section spaced further from said opposing side surface than a proximal curve section.

30. (Previously Presented) The implant plate according to claim 29, wherein the thickness of the plate member is 0.8 to 3.5 mm.

31. (Previously Presented) The implant plate according to claim 29, wherein the plate member is of implant steel, titanium, or a titanium alloy.

32. (Previously Presented) The implant plate according to claim 29, wherein the plate member has a slight curvature to the head-end portion and the shaft-end portion to bear against the outer surfaces of the bone.

33. (Previously Presented) The implant plate according to claim 29, wherein the plate member has a substantially uniform thickness of 0.5 to 6.5 mm.

34. (Canceled)